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PATENT
8007-1081

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kazufumi TSUBAKI et al. Conf.

Application No. NEW NATIONAL PHASE Group

Filed December 27, 2004 Examiner

β -GLUCAN-CONTAINING FAT AND OIL COMPOSITION AND NOVEL
MICROORGANISM CAPABLE OF PRODUCING β -GLUCAN

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 27, 2004

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.

An Appendix is attached following the signature page of this paper.